MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON
November 12, 1941

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The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Chapel Hill held its regular meeting in the Town Hall on Wednesday, November 12, 1941, with Mayor Foushee presiding and the following Aldermen present: Messrs. P. L. Burch, R. J. M. Hobbs, G. O. Davis, R. B. Fitch and R. W. Madry. Alderman F. O. Bowman was absent. Also present were J. L. Caldwell, C. P. Hinshaw and E. E. Peacock.

Subject: Report from Zoning Board on Cooperative Housing Project on Mallett Street.

The Mayor reported the action of the Zoning Board in regard to this matter and read the agreement made between Mr. Martin for the group and the Town of Chapel Hill, signed by Mr. Caldwell as secretary to the Zoning Board. A copy of the agreement is as follows:

The Board of Adjustment recommends to the Board of Aldermen that the members of the Cooperative Group now occupying the Lentz house on Mallett Street, admitting that they are at present violating the spirit of the Zoning Ordinance, be hereby warned that they must move not later than June 15, 1942, with the understanding that this group will endeavor to obtain another house prior to this date, and further that this group agrees to maintain good order in this house and to vacate immediately upon the substantiation of any complaint.

In making this recommendation, the Board of Adjustment is seeking to arrive at a satisfactory compromise in the face of an emergency and is in no manner setting up a precedent in violation of the present Zoning Ordinance, since it is the opinion of this Board that the restrictions that now apply to Residence Zone A should be maintained in spirit and letter.

Signed: Jno. L. Caldwell
Sec. Zoning Committee

Signed: Dan S. Martin
Cooperative Group

Alderman Hobbs stated that the boys should not be asked to try to locate another house before the expiration of their lease, as this might force the boys into breaking their lease and, therefore, being subject to suit. After discussing the matter, Mr. Hobbs suggestion, and other details of the agreement as submitted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment, the Board of Aldermen, upon motion by Alderman Davis and seconded by Alderman Madry, accepted the recommendation of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and approved the agreement as recommended without authorization.

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Subject: Reappointment of two members to SchoolBoard.

The Mayor then declared a joint meeting of the Board of Aldermen and the Board of Trustees of the Chapel Hill Schools for the purpose of appointing two members to the School Board whose terms have expired, and opened the floor for nominations. Members of the School Board present were Mrs. R. H. Wettach, Mr. J. T. Gobble and Dr. E. W. Knight. Dr. E. W. Knight nominated Dr. R. E. Coker and J. S. Henninger for the two vacancies. Alderman Hobbs moved that the nominations be closed and Alderman Fitch seconded .

Mr. J. T. Gobble moved that the vote of the entire joint meeting of the Board of Aldermen and the Board of Trustees be cast unanimously for Dr. Coker and Mr. Henninger, and Alderman Madry seconded the motion, all members present voting in the affirmative therefor.

The motion was then made and seconded that the joint session be adjourned.

Subject: Schedule of All Committees and Boards with Length of Terms.

The Board of Aldermen, upon motion by Alderman Hobbs, seconded by Alderman Fitch, authorized the City Manager to make a chart showing each committee or Board with the length of each term of office and the time for each reappointment.

Subject: Report by Mr. Umstead on the Progress of the Safety League.

Mr. Umstead stated that three meetings of the Safety League had been held since the last Board meeting and a program for the safety campaign had been worked out. Mr. Umstead stated that the League wished to make three requests of the Town.

1. That the Town place stop signs at certain dangerous intersections. Mr. Burton of the State Highway has promised to give all needed signs at intersections within the City limits which occur on State Highways and would also sell the Town at cost signs for other streets. Stop signs are needed at the intersections of Mallett and Cameron, Roberson and Cameron and Ransom and Cameron especially, in addition to the intersections with State Highways.

2. The League requests that stop signs be painted on the streets at several dangerous intersections. The University is already painting such signs in the vicinity of the gymnasium. The Town is requested to paint stop signs at the following intersections: Boundry on both sides intersecting Franklin and Henderson, Church on the north side of Franklin and Mallett and Roberson on the south side of Franklin.

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3. The League requests the Board of Aldermen's approval of the placing of publicity stickers on car windshields. Postcards are to be sent to all registered car owners inChapel Hill informing them of the safety campaign and giving them a sticker which would pledge the driver of the car showing such a sticker to observe all speed laws in the Town of Chapel Hill.

This brought up the discussion of the speed limits of the Town. Alderman Madry moved that an ordinance be passed establishing the speed limits in the business district at 20 miles per hour and in the residential district at 30 miles per hour. After considerable discussion, The Board of Aldermen, upon motion by Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Burch, moved that the matter be deferred to the Public Safety Committee for a recommendation and asked Mr. Hinshaw to investigate the State law in regard to speed limits in cities and towns and give this information to the Public Safety Committee who is to report to the Board at a special meeting on November 17th.

Subject: Complaint in regardto number of Apartments in Dr. Hooker's House.

Dr. Knight reported that he was outraged upon hearing that students were cited to court for violating the Zoning Ordinance when the Town does not enforce the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance and allows Dr. Hooker to keep more than one additional housekeeping unit in his house.

Subject: Special meeting for auditor's report.

Upon motion by Alderman Fitch, and seconded by Alderman Davis, the Board of Alderman agreed to hold a special meeting on Monday, November 17, to hear the auditor's annual report.

Subject: Police Report.

The monthly police report was read by the Clerk and Chief Sloan followed by reporting that he had attended a meeting for Police Chief's conducted by the F.B.I. in Charlotte.

Subject: Report by City Manager.

Mr. Caldwell reported that allthe street work had been completed.

Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Davis stated that three bids had been received for the purchasing of two new trucks. The net cost to the Town for two new trucks per Strowd Motor Company's bid was $1,780; per Poe-Mangum - $1710.52; and per Hazzard Motor Company - $1,600.

The committee recommended that the Town purchase Dodge trucks from Poe-Mangum as per their bid of $1,710.52. Upon motion by Alderman

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Burch and seconded by Alderman Hobbs, the Board of Aldermen, by a vote of 3 to 2 accepted the recommendation of the committee and awarded the contract to Poe-Mangum.

Subject: Petition by Hazzard Motor Company.

At the last meeting of the Board of Aldermen, the Hazzard Motor Company prepared a petition requesting the Town to suspend the section of the Zoning Ordinance prohibiting filling stations and garages within 200 feet of churches and allow them to construct a filling station on the corner of Roberson and Franklin Streets. The Board of Aldermen did not allow this request.

Mr. Hinshaw suggests that the ordinance be amended so as to allow the church which would be affected by the building of any service station to have the authority to pass on the question of permitting the construction of a filling station within 200 feet of that church.

The Board of Aldermen referred the suggestion of Mr. Hinshaw to the Zoning Board for a recommendation.

Subject: Building Inspector.

Mr. Burch brought to the attention of the Board the necessity of the Town having a permanent building inspector and moved that Mr. Joe Sparrow be appointed as building inspector for the Town to be paid from fees collected from the owner at the time of taking out the building permit. After considerable discussion, Mr. Burch withdrew his motion and the Board of Aldermen deferred a decision until the next meeting.

Subject: Tax Penalties due by Mrs. Norwood Simmons.

The Clerk read a letter from Mrs. Simmons requesting the Board of Aldermen to release penalties charged on her delinquent taxes. Mrs. Simmons states that until 1940 she was ignorant of the fact that personal property taxes were to be paid on an automobileand at that time the County sent her a bill for five years back taxes. The Town likewise billed her for five years back taxes plus penalties to date. The TownClerk stated that it was not customary to charge penalties on after discoveries in the event these taxes are paid at the time of billing, but stated that these taxes were billed in 1939, and therefore, penalties had been charged for the full five years plus penalties since the billing date. Mr. Peacock suggested that penalties be charged since the taxes were billed.

Upon motion by Alderman Fitch and seconded by Alderman Madry, the Board of Aldermen agreed that Mrs. Simmons would be relieved of penalties prior to the billing date, since it is customary not to add penalties due to the failure of listing taxes, but to charge Mrs. Simmons penalties since the billing date.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Town Clerk